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January 22, 2024

VIA ECF

Honorable Sidney H. Stein
United States District Judge
Southern District of New York
500 Pearl Street, Courtroom 23A
New York, New York 10007

**Re: *United States of America v. Menendez, et al.*,
Dkt. No. 23-cr-490-SHS**

Dear Judge Stein:

As Your Honor is aware, this Firm represents defendant Wael Hana in the above-captioned matter. We write in response to the Court's January 17, 2024 Order, ECF No. 147, directing the parties to respond to the letters filed by *Inner City Press*, ECF No. 125, and *The New York Times*, ECF No. 145, both of which challenge the propriety of redactions in documents submitted by Senator Menendez in support of his motions to dismiss the second superseding indictment.

Although not expressly referenced in the letters from the press, ECF Nos. 125, 145, Mr. Hana has also filed redacted documents in support of his motions, ECF Nos. 139-143. As is the case with Senator Menendez's filings, the redacted portions of the documents filed by Mr. Hana contain or concern material that has been designated by the Government under the protective order in this matter, ECF No. 55, as "Attorney's Possession Only" or "Attorney's Eyes Only." Mr. Hana has no independent basis to seek to shield this information from the public, and indeed, has not himself had access to some of the redacted information, which he is precluded from seeing (whether appropriately or not) under the Government's "Attorney's Eyes Only" designations. Accordingly, Mr. Hana does not object to the Court unsealing his filings and requiring the filing of unredacted versions of his motion and supporting documents on the public docket.

Thank you for your kind consideration of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Anne M. Collart

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cc: All counsel of record (via ECF)

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